

Hobbs, NM – Today, Harry Teague announced that the Pueblo of Laguna and the Mescalero Apache Tribe have been awarded funding for diabetes education and prevention programs. The grant is part of the Indian Health Service's Special Diabetes Program, which focuses on combating high-rates of diabetes among American Indians across the country.

"It is crucial that we continue to encourage preventative health programs among our local tribes as we fight the diabetes epidemic. This funding for the IHS Special Diabetes Program will go a long way toward supporting the health needs of New Mexico's Native American community," said Harry Teague, whose district includes the Pueblos of Acoma, Isleta, Laguna, and Zuni, as well as the Navajo Nation Chapters of Tohajilee, Alamo, Ramah and the Mescalero Apache Tribe.

The Pueblo of Laguna will receive \$346,228 and the Mescalero Apache Tribe has been awarded \$263,950 for the program, which emphasizes cardiovascular disease prevention in those previously diagnosed with diabetes.

Congress established the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI) in 1997. The Special Diabetes Program for Indians is currently a \$150 million per year grant program that provides funding for diabetes treatment and prevention services at 399 IHS, Tribal, and Urban Indian health programs in all 12 IHS Areas across the United States.

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